

THE
LATTER-DAY SAINTS,
OR
MORMONITES :

WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY ?

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LATTER-DAY SAINTS, OR MORMONITES:

WHO AND WHAT ARE THEY?

INTRODUCTION.

THE question proposed in the title page of this little tract may be answered in a very few words; viz., the LATTER-DAY SAINTS are said to be the followers of a person, named Joseph Smith, and to be so influenced by "strong delusions" that they are tempted to "believe a lie."^a

The writer of this tract has but one object in view, which is to place the *unlearned* upon their guard, and to furnish a few hints to such as are *better informed*, should the "Latter-day Saints" cross *their* path: in the neighbourhood in which the Author is located, a congregation has been formed, and although not so large as it was, it still exists; he has denounced the principles cherished

^a 2 Thess. ii. 11. See also Rev. xxi. 8.

by these misguided followers of Joe Smith from more pulpits than his own, and had not the agents of the Mormon *abomination* endeavoured to tamper with the poor of his flock he would not have thought it expedient to have sent into the world his own views upon the subject.

THE AUTHOR'S REASONS FOR TAKING UP THIS SUBJECT :

1. Because a Clergyman is bound by his Ordination declaration to “*be ready, with all faithful diligence, to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God’s Word.*”

2. Because the Divine Law is trampled under foot, and the Revealed Word of Truth perverted. Some writers describe the vagaries of Joe Smith as Heresy, and the followers of his blasphemous dogmas as Apostates—neither of the terms are applicable, they are too respectable in their bearing by far.

3. Because the *natural* mind of man,^b is more open to the influence of *delusion* than truth, but more especially because the *least educated* of our fellow-men are most easily imposed upon by the proclamation of the marvellous.

4. Because the *doctrines* set forth by this sect, if such it may be called, are the doctrines of *devils*, as denounced by the Apostle Paul.^c

^b 1 Cor. ii. 14.

^c 1 Tim. iv. 1.

PART I.

THE ORIGIN OF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS AND THEIR SO CALLED BIBLE.

1. The *new Bible* which is said to have been discovered by Joe Smith, is nothing more than a *romance*, a *novel*, or what some would call a *tale*; its title was "*The Manuscript Found.*" Many such tales as this are in existence: such as the "*Arabian Nights' Entertainment*," "*Robinson Crusoe*," to which may be added, "*Jack the Giant Killer*," "*Blue Beard*," and "*The Babes in the Wood*," not excepting "*Johnny Gilpin*," and the history of "*Tom Thumb.*"

2. The Author of this romance or novel, Mr. Solomon Spaulding, was born in the year 1761, in Connecticut, and educated at Dartmouth College, Ohio, in America, from which he was ordained a minister of the Congregationalist denomination, which calling, however, he soon relinquished and entered into business; being unfortunate in his new vocation, he invented the tale put forth in his

“*Manuscript Found*,” and removing to Pittsburg he placed his manuscript in the hands of a Mr. Patterson, a printer, who said he would publish it upon speculation, if Spaulding would draw out a title-page and write a preface to the work; this he refused to do, consequently the work was laid upon the printer's shelves, and was not published. Failing in his project, Mr. Spaulding removed from Pittsburg, to Amity in the county of Washington, where he died in 1816, in the 55th year of his age.

3. In 1823, it is represented that an Angel appeared to Joe Smith,^d three times in one night, and announced to him that certain *gold plates* were buried in a cave, (in the hill Camorah) for which he was to make search, and that God would give him the power and ability to read and translate those records, they being in a language which no man could *understand* apart from the divine interposition. These wonderful plates were not possessed by Smith, however, till September 27th, 1827, when they were found in a stone box, and were subsequently delivered to him by an angel, he, at the time, being surrounded by the devil and evil angels: in the same box also, he found the “Urim and Thummim,”^e and a pair of large spec-

^d J. Smith was born in the United States of North America, Dec. 23rd, 1805.

^e For an explanation of these terms see “*Cruden's Concordance*,” Art: *Thummim*; as well as the Hebrew Lexicons of Parkhurst, and Professor Lee.

tacles, made out of two bright stones, which spectacles enabled him to read and translate “unknown languages into English;” nor was this all, for *with* them he could read in the *dark*.

4. These wonderful Records were translated and published by Smith, at New York, in the year 1830, and called the “Book of Mormon.” It was proclaimed by Smith that God had told him he should show the *golden plates* to three persons only, viz. *Cowdery, Whitmer, and Harris*; but afterwards it is represented that God *altered* his mind, and commanded Smith to show the plates to eight other persons, making *eleven* witnesses altogether; of these *eight*, three were Smith’s relations, four Whitmer’s, and another named Hiram Page. In the preface to the Mormon Bible these eleven witnesses declare that they had seen the golden plates.

5. The above-named persons, under the guidance of Joe Smith, formed what is called the “Church of the Latter-day Saints,” which has now been in existence twenty-four years. It may be as well to state here, that the aforementioned Book of Mormon was not considered *sufficient* for the purpose of establishing a *new* religion, but that God found it *necessary* to make revelations to Smith, of a *doctrinal, practical, and spiritual* nature—these revelations are collected and published in a separate volume, called the “BOOK OF DOCTRINES AND

COVENANTS," which^f book is nearly as large again as the Christian's New Testament.

6. In page 5, sec. 2, it was stated that Solomon Spaulding wrote the religious Novel, or Romance, which Joe Smith declared to have been delivered to him by an angel from heaven. Spaulding died in the year 1816, and no more was thought of his manuscript till the "Book of Mormon" came out, when the widow, (who had married again to a gentleman named Davidson) then living at Monson in Massachusetts, discovered the cheat; this fact was certified by the Rev. Messrs. Austin and Ely, and published in the Boston Recorder, a Newspaper, (in 1840) fourteen years ago.^g Mrs. Davidson writes :

"The manuscript now came into my hands, and has been examined by my daughters and several other friends. After the Book of Mormon came out, a copy of it was taken to New Salem, (in Ohio) and it was no sooner read there, than the people recognised, it saying, 'WHY THAT IS SOLOMON SPAULDING'S TALE!' His brother, Mr. J. Spaulding, was present, and so afflicted that it should be perverted to so *wicked a purpose*, his grief gave vent in a flood of tears, and he *arose on the spot* and informed the audience of the imposture with sorrow and regret. The excitement in New Salem was so great, that at a public

^f Both the Bible and Book of Covenants contain from 500 to 600 pages each.

^g See, three writers upon this subject, Howe, Clarke, and Turner.

meeting of the inhabitants on the subject, they deputed Dr. Hurlbut (*a Latter-day Saint*) to repair to this place (*Monson*,) and obtain from me *the original manuscript*^h of Mr. Spaulding, for the purpose of *comparing* it with the "Mormon Bible," to satisfy their own minds, and to prevent their friends from embracing an error so delusive. This was in the year 1834. *The comparison was found correct*, with the exception of a few pious expressions and extracts from the Sacred Scriptures, and construed into a new Bible, to palm it upon a company of poor deluded fanatics as divine.

"(Signed,) MATILDA DAVIDSON."

Mr. John Spaulding says, his brother's book "was an historical romance of the first settlers in America, endeavouring to shew that the American Indians were the descendants of the Jews, or the lost tribes.—It gave a detailed account of their journey from Jerusalem, by land and sea, till they arrived in America, under the command of Nephi and Letri; he also mentions the Lamanites. I have recently read the Book of Mormon, and, to my great surprise, I find nearly the same historical matter, names, etc. as they were in my brother's writings; to the best of my recollection and belief, it is the same as my brother Solomon wrote, with the exception of the religious matter."

^h There is every reason to believe that the Printer's copy was stolen from the office of Mr. Patterson. Upon searching among the manuscripts left by Mr. S. Spaulding, his *original* sketch was found; it appears that in his story he intended, *at first*, to make it appear that the Romans peopled America; he afterwards altered his plan, and made the Israelites to people the land.

7. Now, the extraordinary work called the Book of Mormon, which no man could read or translate but Joe Smith, was written in a language which he called "*reformed Egyptian*," and but for his explanation we should have been at a loss to know what was meant by the "*reformed Egyptian*;" however, Smith, upon being shown a manuscript Greek copy of the Psalms of David, by the Rev. Henry Caswall, M.A., an American Clergyman of great respectability, said, "*Them* figures (meaning "the CAPITAL letters) is Egyptian Hieroglyphics; and *them* which *follows*, is the interpretation of the hieroglyphics, written in the *reformed Egyptian*. *Them* characters is like the letters that was engraved on the golden plates."¹ Therefore, according to the testimony of Smith, the ANCIENT Greek Language was MODERN Egyptian, or the Modern Egyptian was Ancient Greek.

Having laid before the reader a sufficient amount of information to enable him to form some idea of the origin of the *Latter-day Saints* and their *New Bible*, we will now proceed to ascertain, as best we can, whether Joe Smith, his Bible, or his witnesses, are entitled to credit. If it can be proved that they are, we shall be bound to believe that Smith was a *Prophet*, the Mormon Bible a *Revelation* from God, the Witnesses

¹ The City of the Mormons; or, Three Days at Nauvoo. By Rev. H. Caswall.

Saints, and the doctrines they teach *consistent* with the precepts, doctrines, and revelations, recorded in the Old and New Testament Scriptures: should we fail in this our attempt, we shall be equally bound to pronounce Smith a base impostor, his Witnesses as base as himself, and the Mormon Bible, together with the book of doctrines and covenants, blasphemous *inventions* and *forgeries*, and the Latter-day Saints *victims* of a soul-destroying delusion.

PART II.

WE shall now proceed to analyse the claim which J. Smith and the *Latter-day Saints* set up for our belief in their veracity, and the truth of their statements. To substantiate such a claim, we must endeavour to ascertain, whether their pretensions are borne out by the *two-fold* evidence of *internal* and *external* testimony.

1. A revelation from God must remain *unchanged* and *unchangeable*. The Hebrew Bible is the same now that it was 2400 years ago; but the first edition of the "Mormon Bible," printed at New York, and the subsequent editions printed in England, vary considerably both in *matter* and *phraseology*; now as the angel took the plates away from J. Smith, there could be no *new* translation.

2. It is asserted that the golden plates placed in the hands of J. Smith by an angel, were engraved in characters which no man but Smith could read, understand, interpret, or translate; but, if what Smith stated to the Rev. W. Caswall was correct,

those plates might have been read by a boy in any one of our Grammar Schools—and by every clergyman either in England or America; for the Greek taught in our Schools and Universities is ancient Greek, which Smith declared to be *reformed Egyptian*. *Vide* sec. 7, p. 9.

3. It is true that Solomon married a daughter of the king of Egypt, about 1000 years B.C., but it is equally true that Egypt was not conquered by the Greeks till 327 years B.C. under the great Alexander; from which time, and not till then, the Greek language *began* to be spoken and understood in Egypt; but, this would be nearly 300 years *after* the period when the founder of Mormonism, Letri, is said to have received his revelation from God, (written in Greek) and therefore, the Egyptians (except perchance among their learned men) would know nothing about Greek—it certainly was not the language of Egypt. The most ancient language of Egypt, doubtlessly bore an affinity to the Arabic, and the Arabic and ancient Egyptian were dialects of the one *primæval language*,^k which must be traced to the Hebrews. Now, as Letri and his companions went from Jerusalem, what reason have we to believe that the revelation made to him was not expressed in

^k This subject is most ably handled and confirmed by the learned Rev. Charles Foster, B.D., Rector of Stisted, Essex, in a work entitled “The Monuments of Egypt.”

language he could understand? for certainly, the Greek language was not spoken either in Syria or Babylonia, where the Jews were chiefly located, much less in Egypt. There would be considerable difficulty in determining when the Egyptian language became "*reformed*," as J. Smith describes it—in point of fact, its vocabulary might have become extended, and its characters improved as well as increased: but, certainly, there is but one kind of Egyptian handed down to us, *anterior* to the birth of our blessed Lord, specimens of which may be found in every national museum in Europe, as exhibited in Papyri, and certain monumental records.

4. The "Latter-day Saints" pride themselves upon the *ignorance* of J. Smith, because, they affirm, the very fact of his being *unlearned* proves that he must have been inspired and endowed with supernatural attainments. If such was the case, however, how came it to pass that Smith boasts of having studied the "reformed Egyptian" for the space of four years previous to the publication of the Mormon Bible? If so, it needs no argument to prove,—*first*, that the language inscribed upon the *gold plates*, was that which any well-educated school-boy might have read, for, according to Smith's statement, it was *ancient Greek*: *secondly*, if Smith found it necessary to study ancient Greek, or what,—for some reason or

other—he called the *reformed Egyptian*, it is quite clear that there was no reason why he should have been gifted with supernatural powers to enable him to understand and translate it.

5. Had we not been informed that the angel who delivered the *gold plates* to Smith in order that he might translate them, took them away again, we should demand to see them, and which might have been insisted upon without a particle of irreverence. The angel neither engraved the plates nor brought them from heaven; they were written by men—not in a *strange* language, but in a language which they understood, and in which they conversed; the name of the first writer was NEPHI, (600 years B.C.); the name of the last, MORMON, (above 400 years A.C.) We may observe, that when God gave Moses the Law from Mount Sinai, although he gave the language too, he did not take it back from Moses, but required that that *identical* Law should be shewn, read, and taught to the people: tens of thousands among the Jews were witnesses to the marvellous signs attendant upon the giving of the Law, and the revelations and predictions contained in the Old Testament are recorded in the same language as that in which the Law was written by the finger of God; which language, as shewn above, was *spoken* by the Jews, is *now* employed by them in their religious worship—and may be read by *any man* who

will be at the pains to learn it, for it is chaste and simple in its construction, and easy of acquirement. When Daniel was called in by Belshazzar to explain the handwriting upon the wall, there was nothing mystic or hieroglyphic in the inscription; although there was something prophetic in its elucidation; the words were Hebrew, expressed in all probability, in the *old* Hebrew character, which the Chaldean seers did not understand.

6. After the preceding observations, it will be as well to shew, that the language of the supposed plates was neither ancient Greek, ancient nor modern Egyptian. A man by the name of Harris, who had lent his money to Smith to enable him to publish the Mormon Bible, began to be very fidgetty and uneasy, and worried the *self-styled* prophet a good deal about the matter; however, to satisfy the doubts and fears of Harris, Smith copied (as he said) an extract from one of the *golden plates*,¹ gave it to Harris, and told him that he might go to New York, and shew it to learned men there, who would soon satisfy his scruples. Harris immediately started from Palmyra to New York, distant about 300 miles, and shewed the mystic scribble to the Rev. Mr. Anthon, the distinguished Professor of languages, at Columbia College. The learned Professor assured Harris

¹ Caswall's Prophet of the 19th Century, p. 3.

that Smith had imposed upon him, and recommended him to lay the case before a magistrate, and, in return, expose both Smith and his blasphemous pretensions.^m The same views were confirmed by Dr. Turner, a Professor of Illinois College, in America, who, in *addressing* Smith, said, I can regard you in no "*other light than that of a deliberate, cold-blooded, persevering deceiver.*" Smith, however, had told Harris that no one could read or translate the language of the plates but himself; under that impression, Harris furnished Smith with the means of publication, and even after he had discovered the wickedness of the project, united himself with the arch-impostor, *because*, as he told his wife, "*he should make money by it.*"

7. There are two or three other little facts which will serve to develope the imposture. Letri, the father of Nephi, sent his sons to Jerusalem, to get from Laban, a kinsman, some brass plates containing the genealogy of their family, as well as some other records Laban was known to possess, such as the five Books of Moses, some of the Prophecies of Jeremiah, and the History of the Jews down to the reign of Zedekiah. To get these,

^m Professor Anthon and Dr. Clark, state that the characters were Greek, Hebrew, and all sorts of letters, placed sideways and upside down, being mixed up with half-moons, stars, and other objects, and the whole ended in a rude representation of the signs of the Mexican Zodiac. Such characters could be easily selected from a type-founder's, or a printer's book of alphabets, etc.

Nephi murdered his kinsman Laban, obtained possession of the plates, and took them over to America in a box,—into which box the fifteen books of the “*Mormon Bible*” were placed as they were written. Those books recorded (as they certify) the every-day proceedings of the Nephites for the space of 1000 years. Now we are fairly entitled to ask,

1st, Were the Genealogy, Pentateuch, Prophecies, and History written in Hebrew or Egyptian characters?

2ndly, Was the language spoken at Jerusalem, 600 years B.C., the language of the Jews or the language of the Egyptians?

3rdly, If the above-named records and the box which contained them came into the hands of Smith, how was it that he did not translate them?

4thly, Upon what principle of analogy, or common sense, are we to believe that the Jews, who went to America, spoke the language of the Jews, but made their records in the language of the Egyptians? Could it be that God was ashamed of the language he revealed to his people, the language spoken in heaven, as some maintain,—the language which he has *miraculously* preserved for 4000 years? The people who spake it speak it no longer; yet, it is used and read in their religious worship, and retains its primitive integrity.

8. There are two other statements recorded in the *Mormon Bible*, the understanding of which may be entrusted to the reader's ingenuity.

1st, When Nephi and his companions left the coast of Palestine, to traverse the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, on their way to the *promised* land, America, the vessel was guided in its course by a compass which Nephi had providentially found ;—the compass was not known till *one thousand years after that period !*

2ndly, Nephi and his companions were nearly suffocated on board the vessel for the want of ventilation—when Nephi prayed to God for preservation, and God was pleased to command Nephi to *bore a hole in the bottom of the vessel* for the purpose of procuring ventilation.

9. Lastly, the whole of this *artfully, wickedly* designed subject, may be summed up in a few words, (*vide* sec. 6. part I.) ; Solomon Spaulding's Romance of the "LOST MANUSCRIPT FOUND," forms the substance of the "*Mormon Bible*," which the unprincipled Smith, and his no less unprincipled witnesses, palmed upon the credulity of thousands of our poor deluded fellow-men. It is believed that Spaulding's Romance was copied by a person named Rignon, whilst it was in the office of the printer, and, who was Smith's early and influential associate ; but, being a man of some education, he craftily entrusted its procla-

mation, as a revelation from God, to Smith, a man who had no reputation either to *sustain* or *lose*. Had the speculation failed, the discredit would have fallen upon the head of Smith alone ; but as it succeeded, Smith kept the acquired power in his own hands, which Rignon never dared to dispute. Craft and deception, however, are ever destined to reap the fruits of their deserving at some time or other—such was the experience of Rignon, as we shall hereafter shew.^a

^a The *Latter-day Saints*, as a matter of course, endeavour to defend the infamous pretensions of Joe Smith, and condemn every honest effort to expose his *inventions*, *immoralities*, and *designs*, as well as those of his confederates, engaged to abet and perfect the abominable imposture. The testimonies, however, which are employed to combat, and expose the groundlessness and wickedness of those *pretensions*, are given by persons whose credibility, motives, and acquaintance with the abhorrent scheme, entitle them to our respect and confidence.

1. We have the evidence of the *widow* of Mr. Solomon Spaulding, his *daughters*, *brother*, and *many personal friends*, who voluntarily declared that the whole of the *Mormon Bible*, with the exception of the so-called religious matter, is a work of *FICTION*, written many years ago by Mr. S. Spaulding.

2. This evidence is supported by many American writers of the first respectability, who had a personal knowledge of the enactors of Mormonism, and the frauds of its propagators ; among whom, we find Clergymen, Professors of languages, and among the most valuable adjuvants, is the Rev. H. Caswall, the author of the “*City of the Mormons*,” and the “*Prophet of the 19th Century*,” who visited Smith at Nauvoo, and proved him to be a base *impostor*.

PART III.

1. The *Mormon Bible* is nothing less than A BARE-FACED, IMPUDENT, AND IMPIOUS FORGERY. The witnesses who declared that they saw the *golden plates* before Smith had pretended to translate them, were to a man, *perjured* persons, and therefore undeserving of credit; nevertheless, discreditable as they were, they one by one abandoned the *Latter-day Saints*, in shame and disgust. Harris, who had been employed to write down the translation of the *golden plates* at

3. The last we shall allude to, but not the least in importance, are such as have *left* the ranks of the *Latter-day Saints*; they have exposed the perfidious doings of the party to which they had belonged,—a party, whose secrets they knew, and whose confidence they possessed. The “*Latter-day Saints*” may, perhaps, stigmatize them as traitors; but such an epithet cannot be applied to those who have left their community under the unmistakable conviction that they had become the dupes of an infatuating delusion.

Smith's dictation,^o was compelled to admit that he had *not* seen the aforesaid plates with his bodily eyes, but "*with the eye of faith.*" X Rignon who had been a chief among them, denounced the rulers among them as "A GANG OF COUNTERFEITS, THIEVES, AND BLACK-LEGS, OF THE DEEPEST DYE,"—and be it observed, that Rignon's *declaration* was signed by no less than EIGHTY-FOUR LATTER-DAY SAINTS, and dated, "*Far West, June, 1838.*"

2. One word or two as to the language and matter of the *Mormon Bible*: The portion forming the Romance of Spaulding is accurately written, as well as some passages, in all probability furnished by X Rignon, who was also an educated man, and had been a Baptist Preacher. The additions made by Smith, betray the grossest ignorance, viz: "*We are a descendant of Joseph,*"—" *Ye are like unto they,*"—" *The plates of which hath been spoken,*"—" *For a more history part are written upon my other plates,*"—" *I saith unto them,*"—" *I who ye call your king,*"—" *Do as ye hath hitherto done.*" These extracts are from the

^o The mode in which this august undertaking was conducted, is thus described. A room was divided into two compartments, by a large blanket which was suspended from the ceiling to the floor; Harris, with his ink-horn, was on *one side* of the blanket, and Smith on the *other*,—Harris writing from the dictation of the arch-impostor, Smith.

Bible of the *Latter-day Saints*, and are neither garbled nor misrepresented.^p

3. The following statements will further go to prove that the *made-up Bible* of the *Latter-day Saints*, is the work of a bare-faced, lying imposition. It must not be forgotten that the revelations recorded in the abominable work of which we are speaking, are represented as having been made from TWO to SIX HUNDRED YEARS BEFORE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST, consequently, *long before* some portions of the Old Testament Scriptures were revealed, the Sacred Records *collected* by Ezra, or the New Testament *thought* of. Nevertheless, passages are not only quoted from those very Records, but frequently, to a great extent, from the New Testament, and that too, in the words of the English translation, *2000 years* before that translation existed! Nor is this all,—but the birth of Christ, his death, and many circumstances connected therewith, as they are recorded in the English translation of the New Testament, appear in the *Bible* of the *Latter-day Saints*. Even the Mass-book of the Papists, which is *very* modern compared with the falsely called *modern Egyptian*, is quoted in the delineation of *Mary the Mother of God*. We find also

^p *Vide*, “The Book of Mormon Examined;” an admirable pamphlet, by Mr. John Haynes, published by Wertheim and Macintosh, 24, Paternoster Row, and Verrall, Brighton.

the name of Christ introduced, a name neither known *to*, nor recognized *by* the Jews as a proper name;—the Greek word CHRISTOS is the meaning as well as the translation of the Hebrew word MESHIACH, or Messiah, signifying the ANOINTED. We find also a quotation from one of Shakspeare's Plays, Hamlet,

“The silent grave *from whence no traveller returns.*”

The Scriptures foretold that Christ should be born at BETHLEHEM,^a—but the *Mormon Bible*, JERUSALEM. In the Acts of the Apostles, we are told that the followers of Jesus were *first* called Christians in Antioch: but by the *Mormon Bible*, that they were so called in AMERICA, seventy years before the *birth* of the Saviour.

4. We have spoken, p. 7 sec. 5, of the “BOOK OF DOCTRINES AND COVENANTS,” without the aid of which Smith would not have been armed with materials sufficient to have carried on his deceptive *imposture*. Like his predecessor, Mahomet, Smith had a revelation for every lie he *invented*, and every abomination he *practised*. These revelations have been continued since the *merited* and *disgraceful* death of Smith, as we find by a Pastoral Letter, issued and circulated at Liverpool, Jan. 13, 1853, entitled, “Patriarchal Order, or

^a Micah v. 2.; Matthew ii. 5.

Plurality of Wives,"^r in this precious document, the self-designated, apostolic writer says, "*Polygamy is the only kind of marriage instituted by, and in accordance with the mind of God!*" Smith had above *twenty* wives, and his successor B. Young, the present Governor of Salt Lake, some time since, was known to have nearly *thirty*, eighteen of whom were mothers.

Such, reader, is the nature of Mormonism;—such the origin and principles of one of the most damnable delusions that Satan ever attempted to palm upon human-kind. Were it not for swelling this pamphlet to a greater bulk than was originally designed, evidence might be adduced to shew, that Smith was one of the most unprincipled men that ever lived;—from his own *words* and *works*, he can be proved to have been a *liar*, *drunkard*, *adulterer*, and *murderer*. But, although, such was the character of Smith,—although such was the character of many who associated with him, and of many who *now* tread in his polluted steps, we are bound, in charity, to hope and believe that there are thousands of the *Latter-day Saints*, both in England and Wales, who are both *moral* in their character, and *sincere* in their professions. They believe that the *latter-days* have arrived,

^r *Vide*, an excellent pamphlet entitled; THE MORMON DOCTRINE OF POLYGAMY, published by Wertheim and Macintosh Paternoster Row.

that the power of working *miracles*, the *gifts* of prophecy and healing have been restored by Christ to the Church—whose Church they and they alone constitute—that Mount Zion is in America—that the Land of Promise is in America—that the Jews shall be gathered together there—that the King of kings shall appear there, and glorified saints reign there. There are thousands among the *Latter-day Saints*, we would believe, who recognize these things in the spirit of what they call (and that quite apart from the Satanic-minded instrument who laid the foundation of what they think to be) the Church.

It may be thought by many, perhaps, that after what has been narrated in the prosecution of this little undertaking, that it constitutes an extravagant application of the rules of charity, to express a belief in the sincerity and moral integrity of *any* section of the so-called SAINTS. For a man of education, possessed merely with the *ordinary* powers of reflection, *no excuse* can either be made or offered; but when we consider that the major portion of the *Latter-day Saints* are illiterate, ill-informed, and ignorant persons, it ceases to be a matter of surprise that such should become the dupes of the marvellous; consequently they are entitled to our sympathy.

Again, the minds of the poor are, generally speaking, open to the influence of religious teach-

ing and religious impressions,—and stubborn as is the will, and sterile as is the mind, those who have laboured *most* amongst them can bear witness to this fact. The Wesleys, and others, who have formed religious communities, have wrought successfully under the impulse of the same conviction, and have reaped the same amount of experience.

It must be borne in mind, that the *Latter-day Saints* profess to venerate, believe in, and teach from the Word of God ; and it is by their practice of blending *truth* with *error* that our poorer brethren are *deceived* and *betrayed*. The Mormon teachers support, as far as possible, all they advance, by quotations applied from the Sacred Volume ; but, it scarcely need be said, that the application of *such* quotations are made to subserve the *impious* revelations set forth by the impostor Smith,—it need not then be a matter of surprise, that the credulity of *thousands* is ensnared and imposed upon.

We have no intention to controvert the blasphemous dogmas of the *Mormon Bible*, the *Mormon Apostle*, or the *Mormon Leaders*—that has been already done by able writers, both in England and America ; a knowledge of facts is what we chiefly require, and if such can be got at, and are fairly stated, there will be no difficulty in defining the results which would be likely to flow from them.

The Mormonite teachers wish it to be thought that,—1st., They *believe* in the Holy Scriptures; and—2nd., *Teach* Christianity. Now the writer of these pages ventures to affirm, upon his own personal responsibility, that they *neither* BELIEVE *in the Scriptures nor* TEACH *Christianity*, and the following constitute the data upon which he founds such an opinion.

1. The Mormons teach, that the Holy Scriptures *ceased* to be a rule of faith in the year 1830, *immediately* upon the publication of the *Mormon Bible*; that they (the Scriptures) were for *times* which have passed away, and are not applicable to the *present* or any *future* period, and therefore are of no value beyond that of *predicting* the advent of Joe Smith, and *confirming* the blasphemous revelations said to have been made to himself and associate impostors.

2. They further teach that God is not a Spirit,—that he is not omnipresent, but a material Being “*made like unto man*,” and can only be in “*one place at one and the same time*.”

3. They deny also the Holy Trinity, asserting that the Son is not, as a person, distinct from the Father, but that they are one and the *same person*; and further, that the Holy Spirit is merely an emanation from God, constituting a sort of Divine afflation.

4. That all will be *damned* who do not believe

in the Divine mission of Joe Smith, confide in his revelations, and become "LATTER-DAY SAINTS."

After a sense, the Mormons profess to believe in Christ, but not as the *predicted* and *described* Saviour of the Old Testament, nor as the *incarnate* and *complete* Redeemer of the New. Whatever interferes with, or is designed to *pervert* the order and arrangements of the revealed purposes of God, constitutes a virtual abnegation of the whole.

After perusing the preceding remarks, it will be for the reader to determine whether the Mormons *believe* in the Holy Scriptures, *teach* Christianity, or are *entitled* to the name of Christian.

One word respecting the *end* of the wretched man whom Satan had empowered to carry out such abominable machinations—a man, who was denounced by one of his own followers, (Bennett, the Mayor of Nauvoo,) as "*a polluted mass of corruption, iniquity and fraud; a beast, and false prophet, who must be washed in the laver of the law, until his polluted carcass and corrupt soul shall be purified by fire.*" Smith offered a reward of 500 dollars to any one of his armed band who would undertake to murder Mr. Boggs, the ex-governor of Missouri, (a gentleman who had expelled the Mormons from that State.) Smith, having previously *propheesied*, that Mr. Boggs would not die a natural death,—Mr. Boggs *was* assassinated, and

Smith was subsequently *arrested*, probably through the information giving by Bennett, and after much difficulty was transferred to a prison in Missouri, from which, in attempting to escape, he was shot dead, his body being pierced with many balls: such was the wretched end of the profligate *founder* of Mormonism, or the "LATTER-DAY SAINTS."

THE END.

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